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Letter dated 9 June 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Presidency of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, I should be grateful if you would circulate the statement on the latest developments in Guinea-Bissau, enclosed herewith (see annex), as a document of the Security Council.

The statement was issued in Lisbon on 5 June 2009.

(*Signed*) José Filipe **Moraes Cabral**
Ambassador

09-36455 (E) 110609

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Annex to the letter dated 9 June 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Communiqué on the situation in Guinea-Bissau by the Portuguese Presidency of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

The Portuguese Presidency of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP) condemns the assassinations that took place Friday in Guinea-Bissau, namely of Presidential candidate Baciro Dabó and former Defence Minister Helder Proença and sends its condolences to the victims' families.

The Portuguese Presidency of CPLP is following the latest reports with deep concern and calls on the authorities of Guinea-Bissau, in particular the Armed Forces, to assume their responsibilities in maintaining a climate of order and security, and respect for the rule of law.

The Portuguese Presidency of CPLP also urges a rigorous inquiry into the facts.

The Portuguese Presidency of CPLP recalls the terms of the Final Declaration of the Fifth Extraordinary Meeting of the CPLP Council of Ministers on Guinea-Bissau, held on 25 March 2009 in Praia, Cape Verde, and the need to put an end to the cycle of violence and the climate of impunity that has marked the political life of Guinea-Bissau to the concern of the entire international community.

At a moment of particular importance for the stability of Guinea-Bissau, with the election of the next President scheduled for 28 June, the Portuguese Presidency of CPLP repudiates all acts of intimidation and disruption of the electoral process, calling on all political parties in Guinea-Bissau to pursue their activities with respect for the constitutional order, the normal functioning of institutions and in a spirit of serenity in view of peace, consolidating democracy and the economic and social development of the country.